

**Minutes for the State of North Carolina
Forensic Science Advisory Board Meeting
(NCFSAB)**

Meeting – April 8, 2014
North Carolina State Crime Laboratory
Raleigh, NC

Board members present: North Carolina State Crime Laboratory Director Judge Joe John, Kermit Channell, Michael Coble, Tracey Dawson Cruz, David Hinks, Mike Jiroutek, Amanda Julian, Tim Kupferschmid, Peter Marone, Christopher Palenik, Bethany Pridgen, Deborah Radisch, Ronald Singer

Board members not present: Alka Lohmann

Others in attendance: Suzi Barker, John Byrd, Jonathan Dilday, James Faggart, Ann Hamlin, Deena Koontz, Chuck McClelland, Karen Morrow, Timothy Suggs, Amanda Thompson (NCSCCL); Stormie Forte (SBI and State Crime Lab Ombudsman); Sarah Rackley Olson (Office of Indigent Defense Services); John Bason, Forensic Science Advisory Board Counsel Matthew Boyatt, North Carolina State Crime Lab Counsel Joy Strickland (NC DOJ)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Peter Marone at 9:02 am. As the first order of business the board took up and approved the minutes from the previous meeting as drafted.

Following adoption of the minutes, new board members Mike Jiroutek and Tim Kupferschmid were sworn in by Judge John. Board members Peter Marone and Amanda Julian, whose initial 2-year terms had expired, also renewed their oaths.

After the oath of office was administered, the floor was opened for nominations for board chairman. Kermit Channell was nominated and elected, and assumed the chairmanship.

Following the election, the board heard a presentation from architect David Daniel of the firm Roughton Nickelson DeLuca. Daniel showed the board a series of PowerPoint slides representing detailed plans for the Western Crime Laboratory, and engaged in a question-and-answer session with board members.

At 10:15 the board recessed for a short break.

The meeting resumed at 10:30 with former Chairman Marone providing an overview of the Criminal Justice and Forensic Science Reform Act (Senate Bill 2177, introduced 3/29/14). Marone urged board members to read the bill and related legislation, to submit constructive comments about the proposals during the public comment periods, and to follow the progress of the legislation.

At 11:28 the board recessed for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 1:23 pm.

NCSCCL Director Judge John delivered his Director's Report to the board, providing an update on legislative issues and previewing the upcoming "short" session of the North Carolina General Assembly. Chairman Channell noted Judge John's ongoing work to draw attention to the problem of staff turnover in the crime lab. At the chairman's recommendation, the board will draft a letter in support of Judge John's effort to raise awareness about the financial impact of staff who depart for higher-paying positions after receiving lengthy training at the lab, and the impact of those vacancies on the operation of the crime lab.

At 2:00 the meeting was recessed to allow Board members to witness demonstrations in the NCSCCL. The board broke into 2 groups to view demonstrations of photography technology in the Firearms and Tool Mark Section, and LC-MS/MS instrumentation in the Drug Chemistry and Toxicology Section.

The meeting resumed at 2:48.

Board Counsel Matthew Boyatt presented ethics information to the board, explaining that state statutes require boards to be reminded of their duties and responsibilities every 2 years.

The board's next meeting is scheduled for July 22nd, 2014.

The board selected October 28th, 2014 as the date for the following meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 PM.